these eggs can be preserved during more than two months without losing the power of development. If this fact be confirmed, we shall possess the means of procuring species living in distant parts of the globe and acclimatizing them in regions which they have never yet inhabited. This result, obtained by MM. Berthot and Detzem, is evidently of great importance; the following are the means adopted by these gentlemen.

Eggs of salmon artificially fecundated were placed in a deal box in layers alternating with damp sand. The box was then placed, *for two months*, in a cold room, the temperature of which, however, was sufficiently high to preserve them from freezing. At the expiration of this time the eggs were shrivelled, and before taking them out of the box they were placed in water so that they might become moistened through the sand with which they were covered; for when this precaution is neglected, they perish.

Some of these eggs were sent to me by MM. Berthot and Detzem. I placed them in my apparatus, where they have since hatched. The experiment has therefore succeeded.—*Comptes Rendus*, April 5, 1852, p. 507.

POSTSCRIPT TO MR. CLARK'S PAPER ON RARE BRITISH MOLLUSCA AT PAGE 22.

June 23.—The *Chemnitzia* I mentioned yesterday turned out to be the *Chem. obliqua*, with a perfectly smooth shell; and after I had despatched my postscript note I met with the *Chem. decorata*, an animal of more modest pretensions, having the basal volution of the shell finely and superficially striated. This discovery settles the distinctness of the two, which I doubted, having stated in vol. vii. p. 394 of the N. S. of the 'Annals,' that the *C. decorata* is the *C. obliqua*: I make this admission with the reservation that my present shell is the *obliqua*, if such a species is in esse. And this morning I captured the rare *Chem. insculpta* alive. I have notes of the three animals of this peculiar little section of the *Chemnitziæ*.

IRISH MOLLUSCA.

To the Editors of the Annals of Natural History.

Windsor Lodge, Monkstown, co. Dublin,
May 22, 1852.

Gentlemen,—The following Mollusca have been obtained by me off the Dublin coast, some of which are new to that locality: will you please at your earliest convenience to publish their occurrence?

Teredo megotara, Hanley. Drift wood, Killiney Bay.

Xylophaga dorsalis, Turton. Some very fine live specimens were trawled off the Skerrie Islands.

Sphænia Binghami, Turton. In the thick valves of *Ostrea edulis*: dredged in Dalkey Sound, 14 fathoms.

Thracia villosiuscula, Macgillivray. Dredged in about 14 fathoms, Dalkey Sound.

T. convexa, Wood. Trawled off Skerries.

Solecurtus coarctatus, Gmelin. Same locality as the last.

Psammobia tellinella, Lamarck. Dredged in Dalkey Sound.

Tellina pygmæa, Philippi. Same locality as the last.

Cytherea Chione. One valve: dredged in about 14 fathoms, Dalkey Sound.

Circe minima, Montagu. Two odd valves: same locality as the last.

Astarte sulcata, Da Costa. Same locality as the last.

Cardium nodosum, Turton. Same locality.

C. fasciatum, Montagu. Same locality.

Lucina spinifera, Montagu. Trawled off the Calf of Man.

Leda caudata, Donovan. Two live specimens with some odd valves dredged in 13 fathoms, Dalkey Sound.

Lima Loscombii, Sowerby. Dredged in a live state from 12 to 14 fathoms, Dalkey Sound.

Lima hians, Gmelin. A beautiful live specimen was dredged last month in Killiney Bay in about 15 fathoms.

Anomia striata?, Lovén. Dredged in Dalkey Sound.

Chiton lævis, Pennant. Same locality.

Trochus exiguus?, Pulteney. South Bull, Dublin Bay.

T. granulatus, Born. Trawled off the Calf of Man.

T. Montagui, Gray. Dredged in from 12 to 14 fathoms, Dalkey Sound.

Fusus propinquus, Alder. Trawled off the Skerries; but I have obtained much better specimens last summer off the Saltees.

Mangelia gracilis, Montagu. Trawled off Skerries, in company with *M. turricula, Trophon clathratus* and *Nassa incrassata.*

Yours truly obliged,

WILLIAM WHITE WALPOLE.

On the Sun Column as seen at Sandwick Manse, Orkney, in April 1852. By C. CLOUSTON.

The perpendicular column of light which appeared repeatedly at sunset and sunrise during April, deserves a more particular account than the usual monthly report contains, as this is the most northern locality in which I have yet heard of its appearance.

When seen in the evening, it was generally immediately after the sun had sunk either below the horizon, or behind a bank of clouds there.

It was rather wider than the apparent diameter of the sun, and extended upwards for about 15°, widening a little towards the top, and becoming fainter, so that there was no defined boundary; but it was sometimes much shorter, and could be distinctly seen, when it was less than the semidiameter of the sun above the horizon, either when vanishing by descending, as it generally did, or as it last appeared on the 3rd of May, without rising more than about 1°.

Though at first it seemed to be a law that it must descend as the sun descended below the horizon, yet on one occasion, at least (on the 26th), it vanished by ascending, or the base disappeared first.

It was generally remarkably perpendicular, but sometimes had a perceptible inclination to one side, and followed the course of the sun northwards.